



Attorney Docket No. 09793822-0157

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Seiji Sato

Application No. 10/009,112

Filed: December 7, 2001

For: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY APPARATUS,
LIQUID CRYSTAL DEVICE AND LIQUID
CRYSTAL DISPLAY SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 2871

Examiner: T. Rashid Chowdhury

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DECLARATION OF SEIJI SATO UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

Dear Sir:

1. I, Seiji Sato, am one of the inventors of the Liquid Crystal Display Apparatus, Liquid Crystal Device and Liquid Crystal Display System which is the subject matter of the application for United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/009,112, filed December 7, 2001. I am also one of the inventors of Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-113270, filed April 10, 2000.

2. United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/009,112 claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-113270.

3. On information and belief, I first invented the subject matter of Application Serial No. 10/009,112 at least as early as May 10, 1999 as evidenced by Invention Report No. 99003596 ("the Invention Report"), which is date-stamped May 10, 1999, submitted herewith. An English-language certified translation of the Invention Report is also submitted herewith.

4. I further submit herewith a copy of an e-mail ("the E-mail") addressed to me, which E-Mail describes Figures 15 and 16 of the Invention Report. As shown on the E-mail, the E-mail was transmitted to me on June 4, 1999.

5. The Invention Report and the E-mail disclose the subject matter of at least claims 10, 11 and 20 of Application Serial No. 10/009,112. For example, Figures 15 and 16 in the Invention Report disclose modulating means having a liquid crystal sealed within a pair of transparent electrode plates. First and second image separating means having a first and a second direction of polarization, respectively, are located outside from the transparent electrode plates. A pair of substrates clamp at least the first image separating means and the modulating means.

6. Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-113270 was filed on April 10, 2000, less than one year after which the Invention Report was date-stamped on May 10, 1999 and the E-mail was transmitted. I therefore exhibited diligence in filing Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-113270.

7. Application Serial No. 10/009,112 claims priority to Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-113270. Therefore, the filing of Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-113270 constitutes a reduction to practice of Application Serial No. 10/009,112.

8. U.S. Patent No. 6,344,887, issued to *Ma et al.*, was filed on September 10, 1999.

9. Therefore, *Ma et al.* is not a valid 35 U.S.C. §102 reference with respect to Application Serial No. 10/009,112, because the subject matter of Application Serial No. 10/009,112 was conceived at least as early as May 10, 1999, and prior to September 10, 1999. And then I exhibited diligence in reducing the invention to practice on April 10, 2000 with the filing of Japanese priority Patent Application No. 2000-113270.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Seiji Sato
Seiji Sato

August 29, 2003
Date

Dated: Sept. 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted,
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